

PSJ15 Exh 44

1 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
2 FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO  
3 EASTERN DIVISION

4 IN RE: NATIONAL )  
5 PRESCRIPTION ) MDL No. 2804  
6 OPIATE LITIGATION )  
7 \_\_\_\_\_ ) Case No.  
8 ) 1:17-MD-2804  
9 )  
10 THIS DOCUMENT RELATES ) Hon. Dan A.  
11 TO ALL CASES ) Polster  
12 )

13 FRIDAY, JUNE 28, 2019

14 HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL - SUBJECT TO FURTHER  
15 CONFIDENTIALITY REVIEW

16 - - -

17 Videotaped deposition of Ronald  
18 W. Buzzeo, R.Ph., held at the offices of Williams  
19 Mullen, 200 South 10th Street, Suite 1600,  
20 Richmond, Virginia, commencing at 9:08 a.m.,  
21 on the above date, before Carrie A. Campbell,  
22 Registered Diplomat Reporter and Certified  
23 Realtime Reporter.

24 - - -

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1 and I think your words were that you wouldn't  
2 touch diverters.

3 Do you recall that testimony?

4 A. I mentioned something to that  
5 effect, that we would turn down, to my  
6 knowledge, customers that would --  
7 registrants that were involved in what we  
8 felt was the illicit market. And I'm going  
9 back a long time.

10 Q. Yeah. And, sir, how do you  
11 define the legitimate industry?

12 A. They meet the DEA requirements  
13 for registration.

14 Q. And what do you mean by  
15 "diverters"?

16 A. Is when drugs or controlled  
17 substances departs or leaks out or however,  
18 what terms you want to use, from the  
19 distribution chain in an illicit manner.

20 Q. So if a pharmacy provides  
21 controlled substances for other than  
22 legitimate medical purposes, is that a  
23 pharmacy a diverter?

24 MR. DAVISON: Objection.

25 THE WITNESS: Yes. If --



1           anybody who diverts, let's say,  
2           controlled substances for illicit  
3           purposes would be a diverter -- would  
4           be, you know, involved in diversion,  
5           let's say.

6           QUESTIONS BY MR. LOESER:

7           Q.       So a pain clinic that provides  
8           prescriptions for other than legitimate  
9           medical purposes, that would be a diverter  
10          too?

11          A.       Pain clinics -- pain clinics  
12          were an issue that DEA looked at very  
13          carefully, to my knowledge.

14                   I inspected some of them for a  
15          member of the industry, and some of them are  
16          probably very honest, but there are a number  
17          of them that were basically selling drugs.

18          Q.       And you say you inspected some  
19          pain clinics for a member of industry.

20                   Who did you inspect pain  
21          clinics on behalf of?

22                   MR. DAVISON:  Objection.

23                   THE WITNESS:  I don't recall  
24          who it was.  I just remember us doing  
25          it.  That was many years ago, when I